

REACHing Up: Project-Based Learning as a Path to College Readiness Grant Application Fall 2009

The New York City School Library System is pleased to announce the opportunity for all schools with a library program to apply for a mini-grant to fund a project-based learning initiative in the school. The grant, called *REACHing Up: Project-Based Learning as a Path to College Readiness*, is designed to *Revitalize Education for Adolescents and Children* through engaging projects that enable students to develop independent learning skills and prepare themselves to succeed in college and career.

Imagine a classroom and library where students are actively engaged in inquiry work, where they are reading, talking, questioning, analyzing and creating products, in large groups, small groups, and independently – all toward the goal of developing expertise and sharing their learning with others. This is the atmosphere in a project-based learning classroom and library. Successful project experiences increase student motivation, interest, expertise, and learning skills and pave the way for future learning opportunities.

This path to college readiness begins in early elementary and continues throughout the years of schooling. *REACHing Up* will provide library resources and professional development to elementary, middle or high school teacher/librarian teams to plan and implement projects that target key content and essential information and critical thinking skills.

Benefits of *REACHing Up*

- \$2,500 for materials to support student explorations
- Flexibility in designing your own *REACHing Up* program
- 1 day of professional development for teacher/librarian teams
- Professional material to support project-based learning

Requirements to apply:

- Fully staffed school library
- Teacher/librarian team
- Principal support
- Willingness to document the impact of the grant
- Application submitted by deadline of **December 1, 2009**
- Completion of the projects by **June 1, 2010**

Please fill out all sections of this application, using a computer. **Hand-written applications will not be accepted.** Return it to the address at the end of the application by close of business, **December 1, 2009**. For more information on designing project-based learning, please see: <http://www.pbl-online.org>.

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Librarian's Name: _____

NY State Certified Librarian? ____Yes ____No

E-mail address: _____@schools.nyc.gov Phone: _____

School (or campus) name and (DBN): _____

Address: _____

Phone (if different from above): _____

FAX: _____

Principal (Lead principal if on a campus) _____

Principal's e-mail: _____@schools.nyc.gov

Please list all schools on campus, with name of each principal, each principal's e-mail and grades covered:

School	Principal	Principal's E-Mail @schools.nyc.gov	Grades

Please give a **brief overview** of your proposed project and **why your students need this grant**:

List collaborative team members (including the librarian listed at top of application), their titles, and the grades/subjects they teach. There must be at least one other team member besides the librarian. We strongly suggest including a technology teacher, if at all possible:

Name	E-mail @ schools.nyc.gov	Title	Subject/Grade

How many students will be involved? _____ Student grade levels _____

Please describe **the learning goals for the students**:

- Curricular Goals

- Information Literacy Goals (It will be helpful to refer to the NYC Information Fluency Continuum and the Benchmark Skills.)

<http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/LibraryServices/StandardsandCurriculum/default.htm>

- Technology Goals

Please describe **the instructional approaches and activities** that will be included in the project. Include any special accommodations for ELL, Special Education students and other differentiated approaches:

We hope to announce grantees by the end of December. Professional development in project-based learning will be held in January. Materials will need to be ordered by individual school grantees by the end of January and we expect projects to be culminated by June 1, 2010. **Please indicate the timeline of learning experiences for the students:**

What resources/materials would you like to purchase for the library with this grant? Each school grantee will receive \$2500.

The money may be spent on

- books or other print materials,
- electronic resources (Example: CD-ROMs, DVDs, Playaways, E-Books), or
- technology. (Example: a digital camera or digital recorder)

The money may not be spent on

- ephemeral material like trips, consumables, or activities,
- databases with an annual subscription, or
- other material that will not remain in the library after the project has been completed

All materials over \$250 will need to be purchased either through the new FLM ordering system or the NYC DOE E-Catalog. **Please give a general breakdown of the proposed budget:**

Resource Format (Print, electronic, technology, other)	General Description (You do not have to list every title.)	Approximate cost
	Total \$	2500

What final product(s) will the students produce? (This does not have to be the same for all students.)

How will you assess the student learning, both content and information skills?

What are you planning for the final presentation and celebration?

How will you document the effectiveness and impact of the grant?

Please return this grant application by **FAX or Postal Mail** by **December 1** to:

**Judith Schaffner
NYC School Library System
Office of Curriculum, Standards, and Academic Engagement
NYC Department of Education
52 Chambers Street, Room 208
New York, New York 10007
FAX: 212-374-0151**

Reminder: No hand-written applications will be accepted.